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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 634
By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of retired Colonel Nathan S. Hale of Jonesborough.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of retired Colonel Nathan S. Hale; and

WHEREAS, Nathan Hale was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, named for one of the United States earliest patriots, Colonel Hale had a great love and respect for the American Flag and the United States Marine Corps; throughout his life, he steadfastly served the citizens of this great State and Country, laboring first as a United States Marine and later as an advocate for the children of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fleming, Kentucky, he was the son of the late Robert I. and Bernice C. Hale; and

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WHEREAS, Nathan S. Hale received his Undergraduate degree from Milligan College and his Master's degree from East Tennessee State University, and completed postgraduate work at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, a decorated Korean War veteran, Nathan Hale bravely served in the United States Marine Corps from 1952-1983, honorably retiring at the rank of full Colonel; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hale served as Principal of Sulphur Springs High School from 1957-1971 and Daniel Boone High School from 1971-1980; a tough but fair disciplinarian, he earned the respect of his students and teachers alike for his integrity, commitment, and acumen; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished leader, he served as Superintendent of Washington County Schools from 1980-1984, and was elected to the Washington County Board of Education in 1986, serving as its Chairman from 1992-1994; and

WHEREAS, during his sixteen years of distinguished service with the Washington County Board of Education, Nathan S. Hale worked with the Facilities Committee that built two new schools and brought other school buildings up to standard; following the Columbine High School shooting, he organized the Hale's School Safety Summit, which brought educators and public safety professionals together to ensure that such an incident did not occur in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Nathan Hale dedicated his time and talents to numerous professional and community organizations; he was a member of the American Heart Association, the Masonic Lodge, the Shriner's, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion; he was a lifetime member of the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association and the Retired Officers Association; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hale was a faithful and active member of the Sulphur Springs Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, he was a great fan of the University of Tennessee athletics; and

WHEREAS, Nathan S. Hale was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Nathan Hale was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Mrs. Shirley Warren Hale; his two brothers, John Hale and Benjamin Hale; and his sister, Roberta English; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Hale will be sorely missed by his wife, Eleanor C. Hale; his two sons, Warren Cutshaw Hale and Nathan Scott Hale, Jr.; his daughter, Melony Johnson; his stepson, Greg Clark; his three sisters, Doris DeSilva, Eunice Reynolds, and Imogene Brown; his ten grandchildren; and his several nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles; and

WHEREAS, Nathan S. Hale left behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a loving father and husband, a devoted education administrator, and a kind neighbor and friend, his life of service and good will stands as a testament to the difference one person can make; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of retired Colonel Nathan S. Hale, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his meritorious service to the Washington County School System, his honorable service in the United States Marine Corps, his stalwart commitment to his family and community, and the courage and conviction with which he lived.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of retired Colonel Nathan Hale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.